

**ABSTRACT**

A plurality of micron-size solid particles is described herein that includes at least one  
5 polyamide compound, wherein the particles comprise a diameter in the range of about 1  
micron to about 1000 microns, and wherein at least some of the plurality of particles are  
substantially transparent. In addition, a plurality of micron-size solid particles is described  
herein that includes at least one polyamide compound, wherein the particles comprise a  
diameter of less than about 4 microns. Methods of forming a plurality of micron-size solid  
10 particles are also described that include a) introducing at least one amide-based compound  
having a melting point, at least one suspending agent and at least one surfactant into a  
reaction vessel to form a reaction mixture; b) applying a thermal energy to the reaction  
mixture, wherein the thermal energy comprises a temperature that is at or above the melting  
point of the at least one amide-based compound; c) polymerizing the at least one amide-  
15 based compound in the reaction mixture; d) cooling the reaction mixture; and e) rinsing the  
reaction mixture to retrieve the polymer particles.